

00684.003556



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Masanobu SAITO, et al. ) : Examiner: Unassigned  
Application No.: 10/715,533 ) : Group Art Unit: 1756  
Filed: November 19, 2003 ) : Confirmation No.: 5584  
For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS ) :  
March 25, 2004

**Mail Stop Missing Parts**

Commissioner for Patents  
Post Office Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the patent documents listed on the enclosed citation Form PTO-1449. A copy of the non-English patent document and counterpart abstract is also enclosed.

The Examiner's attention is also directed to the following U.S. Applications:

| <u>APPLICATION NO.</u> | <u>FILING DATE</u> | <u>GROUP ART UNIT</u> | <u>STATUS</u> | <u>APPLICANT</u> |
|------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------|------------------|
| 10/714,636             | 11/18/2003         | 2852                  | Pending       | Saito, et al.    |
| 10/617,024             | 07/11/2003         | 2852                  | Pending       | Watanabe, et al. |
| 10/671,690             | 09/29/2003         | 2852                  | Pending       | Saito, et al.    |

### STATEMENT/PETITION/FEE

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of the application. Accordingly, Applicant submits that no Statement, Petition, or fee is necessitated by the filing of this paper. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee, which may be deemed necessary in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate of this Information Disclosure Statement is enclosed for that purpose.

### REMARKS

Japanese Patent Document No. 6-289703 is discussed at least at page 12, lines 12 through 16 of the specification.

### CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the cited information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Favorable consideration hereof is earnestly solicited.

### STATEMENT/PETITION/FEE

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### REMARKS

Japanese Patent Document No. 6-289703 is discussed at least at page 12, lines 12 through 16 of the specification.

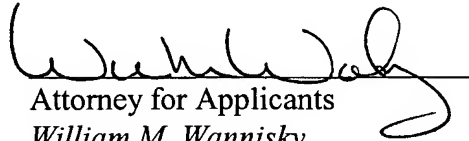
### CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the cited information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Favorable consideration hereof is earnestly solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our New York office at the address given below.

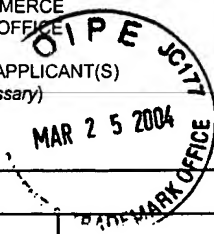
Respectfully submitted,



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|---|--|--------------------|----------|--|-------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| FORM PTO 1449 (modified)<br><br>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE<br>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE<br><br>LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)<br>(Use several sheets if necessary)<br><br>Submitted to the PTO: March 25, 2004 |  |                    |          | ATTY DOCKET NO.<br><b>00684.003556</b>     |       | APPLICATION NO.<br><b>10/715,533</b> |                                       |
|    |  |                    |          | APPLICANT<br><b>Masanobu SAITO, et al.</b> |       |                                      |                                       |
|   |  |                    |          | FILING DATE<br><b>November 19, 2003</b>    |       | GROUP<br><b>Unassigned</b>           |                                       |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS   |  |                    |          |  |       |                                      |                                       |
| *EXAMINER<br>INITIAL  |  | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER | DATE     | NAME                                       | CLASS | SUBCLASS                             | FILING DATE<br>IF APPROPRIATE         |
|   |  | 6,167,212          | 12/26/00 | Satoh, et al.                              | 399   | 55                                   |                                       |
|   |  | 6,272,306 B1       | 08/07/01 | Saito, et al.                              | 399   | 270                                  |                                       |
|   |  | 6,415,127 B1       | 07/02/02 | Yamamoto, et al.                           | 399   | 284                                  |                                       |
|   |  | 2003/0077088 A1    | 04/24/03 | Adachi, et al.                             | 399   | 129                                  | 10/11/02                              |
|   |  |                    |          |  |       |                                      |                                       |
|   |  |                    |          |  |       |                                      |                                       |
|   |  |                    |          |  |       |                                      |                                       |
|   |  |                    |          |  |       |                                      |                                       |
| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS  |  |                    |          |  |       |                                      |                                       |
|   |  | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER | DATE     | COUNTRY                                    | CLASS | SUBCLASS                             | TRANSLATION<br>YES/NO/<br>OR ABSTRACT |
|   |  | 6-289703           | 10/18/94 | Japan                                      |       |                                      | Abstract                              |
|   |  |                    |          |  |       |                                      |                                       |
|   |  |                    |          |  |       |                                      |                                       |
|   |  |                    |          |  |       |                                      |                                       |
|   |  |                    |          |  |       |                                      |                                       |
| OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)  |  |                    |          |  |       |                                      |                                       |
|   |  |                    |          |  |       |                                      |                                       |
|   |  |                    |          |  |       |                                      |                                       |
|   |  |                    |          |  |       |                                      |                                       |
| EXAMINER  |  |                    |          | DATE CONSIDERED                            |       |                                      |                                       |

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.